

[DOCUMENT No. 3.]

REPORT

Of D. RIDGELY,

STATE LIBRARIAN,

TO THE

EXECUTIVE OF MARYLAND,

In relation to the Collection of

Documents, Papers, &c.

Ordered to be deposited

IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER.

ANNAPOLIS.

JEREMIAH HUGHES, PRINTER.

1826.

THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND
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MARYLAND
STATE LIBRARY

STATE LIBRARY.

ANNAPOLIS, August 15, 1835.

To the Governor and Council,

Gentlemen,

The undersigned, by virtue of a resolution of the last General Assembly, having been appointed by the Executive "to examine every part of the public buildings where there may be reason to believe any papers or documents properly belonging to the Executive or any other Department, may be found in an unarranged condition and out of place, and to collect and arrange all such papers and documents, and to deposit them in the office or offices to which they may appear properly to belong, and to report to the Governor and Council, a list of all such papers and documents, noting where each has been deposited," begs leave to make to the Executive the following report, in part.

As soon after the appointment as was practicable, the undersigned proceeded to the discharge of the duties devolved upon him.

The Treasury Department was first examined, from the loft of which he brought to light many interesting and valuable public documents which have been hidden in dust and darkness time out of mind. Many of the papers are in an excellent state of preservation—others are defaced, but their value not materially impaired, while not a few, he regrets to state, are so far destroyed as to be entirely valueless.

The accompanying list will show the value of his researches in this as well as in other parts of the public property.

The old Chancery room, was next examined. Many valuable documents throwing a light upon the history of the State, and the loss of which has been a source of great regret, have been found—among which you will perceive are "*the Manuscript Proceedings of the Council of Safety*," from August 29th, 1775, to March 20th, 1777. The Executive are referred to the accompanying lists as showing the nature and value of his researches.

The undersigned next proceeded to the examination of the papers deposited in the office formerly used by the Auditor General. There also he found many papers of interest and value; among them will be found several Records of the Executive Council Proceedings, Record of Commissions, "*Proceedings of the Committee of Safety for the Eastern Shore*," original letters from high English functionaries during the Proprietary of the Government, &c. The Executive are again referred to the accompanying catalogue of the papers which have been found, and are respectfully invited to visit the Library and examine the papers themselves.

The undersigned has not as yet examined any other departments of the public property, it requiring time to examine properly the nature and value of such as do come into his possession.

The Land Office, the Treasury Cellar, the Committee Rooms of the Legislative Assemblies, and a part of the Auditor General's Office, remain for future examination.— This will be done as soon as practicable. In the mean time, the undersigned respectfully asks of the Executive to remunerate his services so far as they have extended.

Respectfully submitted,

D. RIDGELY.

*Original Manuscript Documents and Letters found in the
Auditor General's Office.*

Original Draft of the Constitution—Report from the committee of the Whole—being Report No. 24.

The Declaration of Rights (Official)

Original Letter from John Hancock, President of Congress, to the Maryland Convention, communicating the adoption of the Declaration of Independence by that body, and requesting it be proclaimed to the people of this Province, dated July 8th, 1776.

Original Letter from the same to the Council of Safety, relative to the intercepted letters of Lord Germaine to Governor Eden, April 16th, 1776.

Original Letters from General Charles Lee, to Samuel Purviance, Baltimore, dated April 6th, 1776, and to the Hon. Daniel of St. Ths. Jenifer, President of the Council of Safety, dated May 6, 1776, relative to the seizure of the person and papers of Governor Eden. Also, many other interesting and important letters addressed to the Council of Safety.

Proceedings of the "Eastern Shore Branch of the Council of Safety" in 1775.

Proceedings of the Commissioners appointed by law, to preserve confiscated British property, in 1781, '82, '83 and '84.

Original Subscription Book, for extending the navigation of the *Potowmac*, in 1785—folio volume.

*Original Manuscript Journals of the Lower House of the
Province of Maryland—found in the Treasury of the
Western Shore, &c.*

1	Copy for 1704, Sept. (in good condition)	1 v. folio
1	do Dec. (only a part)	
1	do 1705, May, (in good repair)	1 v. folio
1	do 1706, April, (in tolerable order)	1 v. "
1	do 1707, March, do	1 v. "
2	do 1708, Sept. do	2 v. "
2	do " Nov. do	2 v. "
1	do 1709, October, do	1 v. "
1	do 1710, do do	1 v. "
1	do 1711, do (Good)	1 v. "
1	do 1712, do do	1 v. "
1	do 1713, do do	1 v. "
1	do 1714, June, do	1 v. "
1	do " October, do	1 v. "
1	do 1715, April, do	1 v. "
1	do " April, (Imperfect)	1 v. "
1	do " October, (Good)	1 v. "
1	do 1716, April, do	1 v. "
1	do " July, (Injured)	1 v. "
1	do 1717, May, (Good)	1 v. "
1	do 1717, July, (Tolerable)	1 v. "
1	do 1720, April, (Good)	1 v. "
1	do 1721, February, do	1 v. "
1	do 1723, } Much injured	1 v. "
	24 25, and 26	
1	do 1725, (Injured beyond recovery)	1 v. "

*Original Letters and other Papers, found in the Treasury of
the Western Shore, &c.*

- 1 Copy of the Journal of the Committee of Accounts for
May, 1695, folio.
- A list of Property in Calvert County, chargeable with As-
sessment in the year 1786, folio.
- Several Letters from Lord Hill—The Duke of Bedford,
Earl of Egremont, William Pitt, (Earl of Chatham)
&c. from 1748 to 1763.
- The Opinions of Daniel Dulany, Stephen Boardley, and
John Hall, on the Acts of Assembly, relating to the
Paper Currency Office, in 1758 and 1764, with other
papers on the same subject, as far back as 1748,
- Instructions from the Lords Commissioners of the Board of
Trade, 1755, 1756 and 1764, accompanied by a map
of Maryland, in 1755, showing that part of the terri-
tory, belonging to Maryland, but then occupied by
Pennsylvania. Also, a variety of original manuscript
papers relating to the disputed boundary, between Ma-
ryland and Pennsylvania.
- An Original Letter from Lord Fairfax to Governor Sharpe,
respecting the true boundary line between Maryland
and Virginia, dated Sept. 24, 1753.
- Manuscript Papers relating to Indian Affairs, and a variety
of other Letters and papers upon interesting subjects.

Original Documents and Papers found in the Old Chancery Office.

1 folio volume—Land Record (Copy) from 1664 to 1728, with many other papers, evidently belonging to the Land Office.

Proceedings of the Governor and Council, for 1699, 1700, 1701—1 v. folio.

Proceedings of the Committee appointed to inspect the Public Records of the Province in 1724—1 v. folio.

Commission Book from 1726 to 1783—1 v. folio.

Manuscript Proceedings (bound) of the "*Council of Safety*," from 29th August, 1775 to 1777, March 20, 1 v. folio.

9 Quarto Volumes of the Rough Minutes of the Proceedings of the "*Council of Safety*," from January 18, 1776 to June 13, 1778.

Original Manuscript Proceedings of the "Convention" for 1775 and 1776—much injured.

Proceedings of a "Court of Delegates" in 1751, together with a great number of valuable original papers, belonging to the Executive Chamber.

A list of Printed Copies of Laws and Votes and Proceedings of the Province and State of Maryland, found in the loft of the Treasury Department, &c.

1	Copy Laws of the Province,	May 1747,	1 v. folio
1	do.	Oct. 1753,	1 v. "
2	do. Votes and Proceedings		
	of the lower house,	Sept. 1765,	2 v. "

A list of Printed Votes and Proceedings of the House of Delegates and Senate, found in the Auditor General's Office.

2	Copies	House of Delegates,	for 1782,	2 v. folio
2	do.	"	" 1784,	2 v. "
1	do.	"	" 1785,	1 v. "
1	do.	"	" 1787,	1 v. "
2	do.	"	" 1788,	2 v. "
1	do.	"	" 1789,	1 v. "
1	do.	Senate,	" 1784,	1 v. "
2	do.	"	" 1787,	2 v. "
1	do.	"	" 1789,	1 v. "

A list of Printed Copies of Laws, found in the Auditor General's Office.

Laws of Maryland for 1803, 1805, 1807 and 1809,			5 v. quarto
1	Copy	Hansons's laws of Maryland from 1765, to 1784, (bound,)	1 v. folio
1	do	Laws of Maryland, for 1766,	1 v. "
1	do	" " 1769,	1 v. "
4	do	" " 1777,	4 v. "
1	do	" " 1778,	1 v. "
3	do	" " 1779,	3 v. "
1	do	" " 1781,	1 v. "
1	do	" " 1782,	1 v. "
1	do	" from 1781 to 1783, (bd.)	1 v. "
1	do	" " 1777 to 1780, (")	2 v. "
2	do	" for 1783,	2 v. "
1	do	" from 1784 to 1785, (bd.)	1 v. "
1	do	" " 1786 to 1788, (")	1 v. "
1	do	" for 1788,	1 v. "
1	do	" " 1792,	1 v. "
A	Compilation of the Laws of Maryland, (Edited by Wm. Parks and pub- lished in Annapolis in 1727, (bd.)		1 v. "
1	Folio	Volume of the Laws of Virginia, from 1661 to 1734,	1 v. "
1	Quarto	Volume of the Laws of " " for 1799	
1	Folio	Volume of the Laws of New Jer- sey, for 1779 and 1780,	1 v. "

*Original Manuscript Journals of the Council of the Province
of Maryland in Assembly, &c. &c., found in the Treasury
of the Western Shore, &c.*

1	Copy for 1666, April, (injured beyond repair.)			
1	do 1676, April,	do	do	do
1	do " May,	do	do	do
1	do 1678, Nov.	do	do	do
1	do 1683, Nov.	do	do	do
1	do 1692, May,	do	do	do
1	do 1694, Feb.		Injured.	1 v. folio
1	do " Feb. to May, 1695,		do	1 v. "
1	do " Sept.		do	1 v. "
1	do 1695, Oct.		do	1 v. "
2	do 1696, April,		do	1 v. "
1	do " July,		do	1 v. "
1	do " Sept.		do	1 v. "
1	do 1697, May,		do	1 v. "
1	do " June,	(in tolerable repair)	do	1 v. "
1	do 1698, Feb.		do	1 v. "
1	do " March,		do	1 v. "
2	do " Oct.		Injured.	2 v. "
1	do " Nov.		do	1 v. "
3	do 1699, June,		(Good)	3 v. "
1	do 1700, April,		do	1 v. "
1	do 1701, March,		do	1 v. "
2	do " May,		do	2 v. "
1	do 1702, June,		do	1 v. "
1	do 1703, Oct.		do	1 v. "